

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/546,828

Examiner

IYABO S. ALLI

Applicant(s)

KOIKE, TAKASHI

Art Unit

2877

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/02/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 2 and 3-13.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                      |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>08/25/2005</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                    |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                     | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance              |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. Acknowledgement is made to the amended claims **1, 2, 4, 8, 9 and 10**, cancelled claim **3**, and new claims **11-13**.
2. Applicant's arguments, see Pages 6-7 of Applicant Remarks, filed on March 2, 2007, with respect to claims 1-10 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 102(e) rejection of claims 1-10 has been withdrawn.
3. Claims **1-10** are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

**As to claim 1**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a plurality of hole portions are formed in the light shielding member so as to penetrate the light shielding member from the table side to the photodiode side, whereby a part of the light from the immunochromatographic test strip to the photodiode is guided through each of the hole portions as clearly shown, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim.

**As to claim 10**, the prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to disclose or render obvious a table on which the immunochromatographic test strip is to be mounted and a plurality of hole portions penetrating the light shielding member from the table side to the photodiode side are formed in juxtaposition in a direction intersecting with the predetermined direction, in the light shielding member as clearly shown, in combination with the rest of the limitations of the claim

Reference **6,819,422** discloses hole section for passing transmitted light from the test piece in the aperture.

However, it fails to disclose the limitations cited above in claim 1.

Reference **6,819,422** discloses a casing in which the immunochromatography test piece to be place in.

However, it fails to disclose the limitations cited above in claim 10.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to IYABO S. ALLI whose telephone number is 571-270-1331. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th 7:30am- 5:00pm; 1st F-OFF & 2nd F- 7:30-4pm.

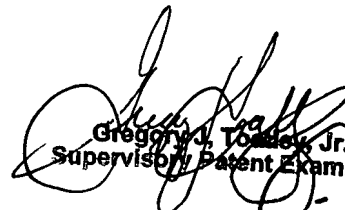
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory Toatley can be reached on 571-272-2059. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

IYABO S. ALLI  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2877  
April 12, 2007

*I.A.*

  
Gregory J. Tooley, Jr.  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
*16 April*